

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 7, 2014

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
Senate Appropriations Committee
Senate Dirksen Building, 184
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development
Senate Appropriations Committee
Senate Dirksen Building, 188
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Feinstein and Ranking Member Alexander:

This letter is to amend my original request dated April 3, 2014, for the agencies within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development. This bill language is to be added with Priority 4 under Independent Agencies on Page 3 of my original request.

4. Title: Office of the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects

Program Description: The Office of the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects (OFC), established by Public Law 108-324, is an independent agency in the Executive Branch, pursuant to the *Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act of 2004*. The OFC is responsible for coordinating all federal activities for an Alaska natural gas pipeline project, including joint surveillance and monitoring with the State of Alaska during construction and for one year following the completion of the project.

Fiscal Year 2014 Enacted: \$1 million

Fiscal Year 2015 President's Budget Request: 0

Additional Amount Requested: \$1 million

Language: The suggested bill language attached would adjust the mission of the OFC to work on an All-Alaska project. The language amends the definition of a qualifying project and also provides strict timelines on the Environmental Impact Statement process for the All-Alaska project.

Account: Office of the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects

Rationale: Additional funding will ensure the office has the appropriate resources to carry out its projected work, in accordance with existing law, in Fiscal Year 2015.

Project sponsors will be working towards submitting an application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to build and operate a pipeline for moving North Slope gas to

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the market. The office will be responsible for coordinating all activities of relevant agencies.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact my staff members, Lindsay Kavanaugh or Michael Johnson, at (202) 224-3004 if additional information is required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Begich", is positioned above the printed name.

Mark Begich
United States Senator

113th CONGRESS

2d Session

S. 2096

To amend the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act of 2004 to provide for the authorization of liquefied natural gas terminals and related facilities necessary for the export of Alaska natural gas, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

March 6, 2014

Mr. BEGICH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act of 2004 to provide for the authorization of liquefied natural gas terminals and related facilities necessary for the export of Alaska natural gas, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES.

- (a) Short Title- This Act may be cited as the 'Freedom Through Energy Export Act'.
- (b) References- Except as otherwise expressly provided, wherever in this Act an amendment is expressed in terms of an amendment to a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Act of 2004 (15 U.S.C. 720 et seq.).

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF ALASKA NATURAL GAS TRANSPORTATION PROJECT.

Section 102(2) (15 U.S.C. 720(2)) is amended--

- (1) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B);
- (2) by inserting 'any of the following projects authorized under the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 719 et seq.) or section 103:' after 'means';
- (3) by striking 'any natural gas pipeline system' and inserting the following:
 - '(A) Any natural gas pipeline system';
- (4) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated) by striking 'that is authorized under--' and inserting a period at the end; and
- (5) by adding at the end the following:

`(B) Except with respect to projects described in section 116, any liquefied natural gas terminal and any facilities necessary or required for the export of Alaska natural gas (including related facilities subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission).'

SEC. 3. ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY.

Section 103 (15 U.S.C. 720a) is amended--

(1) in the heading, by inserting `or other commission authorization' after `necessity';

(2) in subsection (a)--

(A) by striking `may, in accordance' and inserting `may--

`(1) in accordance';

(B) in paragraph (1) (as so designated), by striking the period at the end and inserting `; or'; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

`(2) in accordance with section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717b), consider and act on an application for authorization for a liquefied natural gas terminal and any related facilities determined necessary or required for the export of Alaska natural gas other than the Alaska natural gas transportation system.';

(3) in subsection (b)--

(A) in the heading, by inserting `or Other Authorization' after `Certificate'; and

(B) in paragraph (1)--

(i) by striking `shall issue a certificate' and inserting `shall issue--

`(A) a certificate';

(ii) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated), by striking the period at the end and inserting `; or'; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

`(B) an authorization for the siting, construction, and operation of an Alaska natural gas transportation project, if the applicant has satisfied the requirements of section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717b) for a liquefied natural gas terminal and any related facilities determined necessary or required for the export of Alaska natural gas.';

(4) in subsection (c), by striking `for the project under section 7(c))' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting `for the projects under--

`(1) section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717b);

`(2) section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717f(c)); and

`(3) this section.'; and

(5) in subsection (g), by striking `The holder of the certificate' and inserting `The holder of a certificate'.

SEC. 4. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS.

Section 104(a) (15 U.S.C. 720b(a)) is amended by inserting 'under section 7 of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717f) or the issuance of an authorization under section 3 of that Act (15 U.S.C. 717b)' after 'certificate of public convenience and necessity'.

SEC. 5. FEDERAL COORDINATOR.

Section 106(c) (15 U.S.C. 720d(c)) is amended--

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting 'or a pipeline project that carries natural gas from the Alaska North Slope to market south of 68 degrees north latitude' after 'Alaska natural gas transportation project';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting '; and'; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

'(3) to ensure that Federal agencies are fully informed in carrying out an Alaska natural gas transportation project, providing Federal agencies with information about--

'(A) the Alaska natural gas transportation project; and

'(B) any commercial, technological, or regulatory issues that could affect the project.'.

SEC. 6. CLARIFICATION OF ANGTA STATUS AND AUTHORITIES.

Section 110(b) (15 U.S.C. 720h(b)) is amended--

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(2) by striking 'Any Federal agency' and inserting the following:

'(1) IN GENERAL- Any Federal agency'; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

'(2) EFFECT- Nothing in this Act or the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 719 et seq.) shall preclude the construction of a gas liquefaction terminal or any other facilities determined necessary or required for the transportation and export of natural gas from the Alaska North Slope.'.

SEC. 7. ALASKA PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION TRAINING PROGRAM.

Section 113 (15 U.S.C. 720k) is amended--

(1) in subsection (a)(1)--

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking 'gas pipeline system' and inserting 'natural gas transportation project'; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking 'gas pipeline' and inserting 'natural gas transportation project'; and

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking 'pipeline system' and inserting 'transportation project'.

SEC. 8. SENSE OF CONGRESS CONCERNING ALASKAN OWNERSHIP.

Section 115(1) (15 U.S.C. 720m(1)) is amended by striking 'pipeline' and inserting 'transportation project'.

SEC. 9. LOAN GUARANTEES.

Section 116(a)(1) (15 U.S.C. 720n(a)(1)) is amended by inserting 'that includes a pipeline to the border between Alaska and Canada approved pursuant to section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717f(c))' after 'qualified infrastructure project'.